

CONFIDENTIAL.]

REPORT

[No. 7 of 1909.]

NATIVE PAPERS IN BENGAL

FOR THE
Week ending the 13th February 1909.

CONTENTS.

	Page.		Page.
I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.			
The present situation in Persia ...	183	(f)—Questions affecting the land—	
Anglo-Russian endeavours to counteract the German influence in Persia ...	ib.	Survey and settlement work in Midnapore ...	189
Indians in South Africa ...	184		
II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.			
(a)—Police—			
A complaint against a villager in the Jessore district ...	184	(g)—Railways and Communications, including Canals and Irrigation—	
Arrests by the police in Faridpur and Madaripur ...	ib.	Nil.	
(b)—Working of the Courts—			
The Sonar Bharat case ...	185	(h)—General—	
Trial of the Anarchists at Alipur ...	186	The Reform Scheme and the Muhammadans ...	190
The heavy sentence passed on the accused in the Midnapore bomb case ...	187	Class representation in the Legislative Councils ...	ib.
The judgment in the Midnapore bomb conspiracy case ...	ib.	The Muhammadans and the Reform Scheme ...	ib.
The Midnapore case ...	ib.	Lord Morley and the Muhammadan deputation ...	ib.
The Midnapore conspiracy case ...	ib.	The Reform Scheme and Muhammadans ...	ib.
The Midnapore bomb case ...	ib.	Sir Henry Cotton and the deported men ...	191
The Midnapore conspiracy case ...	188	Deportation allowance ...	ib.
(c)—Jails—			
Nil.		No allowance to families of deportees from Eastern Bengal ...	ib.
(d)—Education—			
Primary education should be made free without any further delay ...	188	How to restore peace to Bengal ...	ib.
National education ...	ib.	Rumour as to Lord Minto's retirement ...	192
The Director of Public Instruction, Eastern Bengal and Assam, stopping a play by the students of the Dacca College ...	189	The Lieutenant-Governor's first speech in the Legislative Council ...	ib.
Expulsion of one Sachindra Ghosh from the Dacca College ...	ib.	Sir Edward Baker on reforms at the Bengal Council ...	ib.
(e)—Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration—			
Nil.		The Lieutenant-Governor's speech in Council ...	ib.
III.—LEGISLATION.			
Nil.			
IV.—NATIVE STATES.			
Nil.			
V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.			
Nil.			

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

The Titagarh riots	193
A cow-killing dispute in Kustia	ib.
Dr. Ashutosh Mukherjee's rumoured appointment to the Viceroy's Executive Council	194
Dr. Mukherjee's rumoured appointment to the Viceroy's Council	ib.
Dr. Mukherjee's rumoured appointment as Law Member in the Viceroy's Council	ib.
The rumour about Dr. Mukherjee being made a Member of the Viceroy's Council	ib.
A membership of the Executive Council	ib.
Rumour about Dr. Ashutosh Mukherjee's appointment to the Viceroy's Executive Council	195
Theft of Lord Curzon's wine-cooler prepared from the Indian presents	ib.
The Madras Congress	ib.
An advice to the Musalmans to improve their condition	ib.
The Anglo-Indian Press and Nihilism	ib.
Method of stopping the drain of wealth from the country	ib.
Insult to the image of a god	ib.
A justification for the boycott	ib.

URIYA PAPERS.

The Weaving School at Serampore	196
House-searches in Bengal	ib.
No distinction necessary between Uriyas and domiciled Bengalis	ib.
The coming Administrative Reforms	ib.
The Seragarh Upper Primary School in Balasore, not well officered	ib.
Mr. B. C. Sen presiding over an annual prize distribution meeting in Balasore	ib.
An objection	197

URIYA PAPERS—concluded.

Theft of paddy in Bhadrak	197
The liberality of Mr. Ananda Mahanty	ib.
The poor in Bhadrak suffering from winter	ib.
Savage treatment in a public school	ib.
Loyalty	ib.
A child in Talcher carried off by a jackal, but recovered	ib.
The new Bantala market in Angul	ib.
The diet in the Lepet Asylum, Puri, not approved	ib.
The action of the Nagpur authorities approved	ib.
The effect of the export of rice from the Orissa Garjats on the price of that important article of food	198
High price of rice in Angul due to salt traders	ib.
The nomination of Mr. Lalimohan Das to a seat in the Calcutta High Court, approved	ib.
High price of paddy and rice crops in Kendrapara	ib.
The price of rice in Balasore	ib.
A fire in Balasore	ib.
The Medical examination rules in England and Lord Morley	ib.
The deportation of nine distinguished men from Bengal	ib.
The Pleaders' class in the Ravenshaw College	ib.
Poverty and ignorance afflicting the coolies in Orissa	ib.
The Bengal Tenancy Act not suited to the temporarily-settled Orissa	ib.
Lord Morley and Lord Minto thanked	199
Unsatisfactory Proceedings of a Settlement Officer noticed	ib.
Neglect of chaukidars and dafadars in Misrapatna noticed	ib.
The Revision Settlement proceedings a source of trouble to the people in Jhankar	ib.
A postal complaint	ib.
An accident	ib.
A dangerous jackal in Outtack	ib.
Cholera in the Outtack district	ib.
The mango crop in Outtack a failure	ib.
Public health in Outtack	ib.
A prize distribution meeting in Outtack	200

I.—FORMER POWERS.

THE *Namai Muqaddas Hablul Matin* [Calcutta] of the 25th January has the following on the present situation in Persia:—

NAMAI MUQADDAS
HABLUZ MATIN,
Jan. 25th, 1900.

The Shah is apparently blamed by the English and the Russians for his not acting up to their advice, but to any one who has any knowledge of diplomacy and the incidents of the past few months in Persia it will look as a mere sham inasmuch as the Shah has all along very closely followed their advice. Their repeated advice to the Shah to open the Parliament has been merely formal, in order that they may shake off the responsibility from their own heads.

As soon as the abolition of the Parliament, which was made to test the Persians and the rival Powers, excited the Persians who began to correspond secretly with the Ambassadors of the rest of the Powers, the English and the Russians began outwardly to protest against the conduct of the Shah, but gave him all secret help against the Persians, in order to keep up a balance between the national and the royal Power necessary to prolonged anarchy in Persia, with a view to enable the two Powers to press forward their claims and attain their object.

As long as two months and-a-half ago, the *Novos Vremya*, the leading Russian organ, has expressed the desirability of holding a conference to consider the question of reforms in Persia. The statement has been recently corroborated by Reuter, who stated that a conference composed of the representatives of Russia, England, the Shah and the Persian Constitutionalists is about to be held at St. Petersburg to devise measures for restoring peace in Persia. We gather therefore from the above communique that the Russians had long wished for holding a conference, being in alliance with the English throughout. Their formal protest to the Shah and the Shah's dissent to open the Parliament were mere tricks played for holding the conference, which would not have otherwise taken place.

The proposed conference, if it sits, will bring on considerable disadvantages to the Persian nation, as well as the Persian Monarchy. It will establish a precedent, giving right in future to the English and the Russians, in exclusion of the rest of the Powers, to interfere with the civil conflict in Persia. It will give preference to the Anglo-Russian claims in Persia. It will confirm the power of the Shah, as it is to be held in pursuance of his wishes, but peace will be liable to be disturbed at any moment. It will further trample down some of the rights of the nation by an overwhelming majority of votes, Russia and England siding with the Shah.

As the present situation in Persia is so critical that the slightest territorial encroachment of any Power would call forth a general war between the different European Powers, we advise the Persians to act on their own account, and not to be content with the friendship of any Power. They should never give assent to the holding of the proposed conference, as it is obviously prejudicial to their interests.

We take England to be the supporter of the Persian Constitution, as she has frankly expressed at the Anglo-Russian Convention, but her alliance with Russia makes us apprehend that she would not like to offend her ally by practically supporting the Constitution and the integrity of Persia. Hence it is that we advise the Persians to themselves calculate their profit and loss and not to close their eyes in confidence relying on the help of any Power.

2. The *Namai Muqaddas Hablul Matin* [Calcutta] of the 25th January learns from St. Petersburg papers that the Russian Bank of Loans at Teheran is about to be changed into the Anglo-Russian Bank, with branches in some of the important towns in the Ottoman

NAMAI MUQADDAS
HABLUZ MATIN,
Jan. 25th, 1900.

Empire, while the project of the construction of a railway line from the Caspian Sea to the Persian Gulf is under the contemplation of the English and the Russians. This joint Anglo-Russian policy has, according to the paper, a deep political and commercial significance throughout Asia, specially Persia which has of late become the field of rivalry among the different

Anglo-Russian endeavours to counteract the German influence in Persia.

European Powers. The Germans, says the paper, have been giving secret help to the Shah, in order to persuade him to grant them concessions for constructing the Persian railways after the expiration, in December 1909, of the term of the concessions granted to the Russians. The English fearing that the Germans would in that case be supreme to the East, have applied themselves to work for the continuation of the term of the concessions granted to the Russians, and placed the coffers of their treasure at the disposal of the Russians, whose own means have proved insufficient to allow them to compete successfully with their rivals.

As no Power has up to this time been granted the concessions for the construction of railways between the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Mazindran, the Persians, if they are so disposed, may take advantage of the competition of the Powers for such concessions by making the terms for the same, more favourable to them. It is at present expedient for the Persians not to accede to the demands of Russia and England or Germany.

HITAVADI,
Feb. 5th, 1909.

3. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 5th February notices the omission of the subject of the Indians' status in South Africa from the King's Proclamation, and regrets that neither His Majesty nor Lord Morley has done anything to remove the sufferings of the Indians of that place. The writer supports the views of Mr. Gandhi on the subject of Asiatic immigration in the Transvaal, and protests against any legislation intended to close the country against all Indians. Even the *Times* has admitted the justice of the claims of the Indians, and it is hoped that Lord Minto will do his utmost to see their position made secure in South Africa.

Indians in South Africa.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

JASOHAR,
Feb. 4th, 1909.

4. A correspondent of the *Jasohar* [Jessore] of the 4th February says that one Bisweswar Bhattacharyya, an inhabitant of Bajrapur, Banagram, district Jessore, is committing great oppression on his co-villagers. It is now his desire to have a punitive police force quartered at the village, and his object is to see the poor villagers ruined by a police-tax. He has been giving out that all his oppressions will cease, if only Balakari Datta, Jnanada Dasi and Murari Mohun Dass would sell out their homesteads, etc., to him.

5. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 7th February, in an article headed "Keeping the peace or a farce?" says that the police are entrusted with the charge of keeping the peace, and they take steps in time to prevent any disturbance from taking place if any is apprehended; but now-a-days their endeavours to keep the peace generate great dissatisfaction in the minds of the public. The paper then mentions two cases, in one of which a Police Sub-Inspector named Aswini Kumar Dutt arrested a young man named Harendra Kisore Basu Ray of Bande Gaon, in Munshingunge, Dacca, under a warrant issued in the name of one Harendra Kumar Ray Chaudhuri of Bahar Gram. The writer is at a loss to understand how the police are going to defend their conduct in the case. In the second case, as the result of house-searches in several villages under an order from Mr. Soames, the Sub-divisional Officer of Madaripur, about fourteen or fifteen boys, including a blind boy, were arrested. Petitions were submitted to the District Magistrate for granting bails to the boys, but he did not know anything about the case, and sent the petitions to Mr. Soames for disposal. The paper then comments as follows:—

The District Officer, the local gentlemen and even the guardians of the boys did not know anything against them, but Mr. Soames did not, for a moment, hesitate to send them to prison. It may be that the Sub-divisional Officers are empowered to issue warrants; but it is a point for consideration whether it was just for Mr. Soames to send the boys, who belong to respectable families, to prison, relying on the report of the police.

DAILY HITAVADI,
Feb. 7th, 1909.

A complaint against a villager in the Jessore district.

Arrests by the police in Faridpur and Madaripur.

Sir Andrew Fraser was the "Friend of the Police," and many of these officers were praised by him even for doing wrong; and though the Lieutenant-Governor of Eastern Bengal does not feel proud to claim that title, yet some of the Police officers in his jurisdiction consider themselves omnipotent. The Government is tying the people fast by passing new Acts; but what step does it intend to take to prevent the Police officers from disturbing the peace of mind of the peace-loving people? Under the provisions of the "Crimes Act," any man may, on the report of the police, be sent to *hajut* by the Magistrate, and may even be committed to the Sessions on the strength of such secret report; but the authorities have made no provision whatever for the punishment of the Police officer on whose report an innocent man will be hauled up only to be acquitted at last.

The Government and the people both are anxious for peace. The latter are more concerned with it, because they have to suffer in its absence. The Government officers should therefore direct their attention to all the quarters from which peace may be disturbed, but they keep a sharp eye on the action of the people only, and they forget to watch the actions of those who in the name of keeping the peace break it. If the Government officers be really anxious for peace, they ought to judge impartially, and they ought to restrain their pet Police officers from doing wrong, instead of holding the people alone responsible.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

6. Referring to the confiscation of the "Sulabh Hitaishi Press" where the newspaper *Sonar Bharat* used to be printed, the *Sonar Bharat* [Howrah] of the 30th January writes:—

SONAR BHARAT,
Jan. 30th, 1929.

The Police in the *Sonar Bharat*.

The "Sulabh Hitaishi Press" confiscated.

Freedom of the press destroyed.

Laying the axe at the root of the Hindu religion!!

A poem headed "Mahanisay Jagaran" appeared in the *Sonar Bharat* of the 21st November. This poem is alleged to contain passages which are likely to incite people to murder, and hence the "Sulabh Hitaishi Press," where the paper used to be printed, has been ordered to be confiscated. There is, however, nothing in that poem which is at all seditious. The poem has been named in memory of the battle between the gods and the demons, which took place in the Vedic era, and it was written by Babu Syamdas Mukerjee, Surveyor, Gajlighata Colliery, within the jurisdiction of Katrasgarh Post-office. The name and address of the author were published with the poem, at his express desire; and if there were anything objectionable in the poem the author would never have asked to have his name and address to be made public, nor would we have published them. We are well-wishers of the British Government, and many suspect us to be British spies. Can we in these circumstances publish any objectionable poems?

*The "Chandi" is a sacred book of the Hindus, embracing a chapter of the traditional feud between Devas (gods) and Daityas (demons), and containing an account of the mortal fight between Kali and the demons Sumbha and Nisumbha.

† Siva.

Anybody who has read the "Chandi" or heard it read out to him can by comparing the poem "Mahanisay Jagaran" with the "Chandi" find that there is nothing in the poem which does not appear in the "Chandi." When the oppression of the demons drove the gods to despair, a certain god reminded them (the gods) of the grace of Sankara† and Kali, and thereby tried to cheer them up. And

it is the words which this god spoke on that occasion that have been rendered into verse by the author of the poem "Mahanisay Jagaran." There is absolutely no mention of the English or of the *swadeshi* agitation in this poem; besides, the words "In memory of the battle between the gods and the demons" appear in clear type just under the heading of the poem. And still the authorities have considered the poem as inciting to murder, and have ruined a poor man for nothing? Those who are ignorant of Sanskrit will, if they read the Bengali poem "Devayuddha" by Srijata Saratchandra Chaudhuri, B. A., find that

unlike the "Chandi" or the "Devayuddha" the poem "Mahanisay Jagaran" contains nothing which actually incites people to slaughter. And yet this poem has been considered to be objectionable.

The *Sonar Bharat* always takes the middle and impartial course, and is for that reason disliked by the Moderates, the Extremists, and even by some Loyalists. These people will perhaps be glad to hear of the troubles that have befallen the *Sonar Bharat*; and if that be a fact, we must say that by doing so they have given proofs of their own foolishness. If they be true Hindus, if they consider it their duty to protect the Hindu religion, they ought to be anxious at this news. If the translation or the exposition of the "Chandi" (which no Hindu can ever do without even for a moment) be prohibited as a punishable offence, there is every likelihood of the chanting of the verses of the "Chandi" being prohibited before long. The confiscation of the "Sulabh Hitaishi Press" does not mean the ruin of that press alone, but of the whole country, with its people and their religion. If such is to be the fate of an imitation of the "Chandi," it can be easily imagined that the original will also share the same fate. Hence it will not be proper for anybody to be merry or to keep silent over our present distressing situation. We hope that all our countrymen will protest against this strongly, and that our kind-hearted Lieutenant-Governor Sir Edward Baker will release the "Sulabh Hitaishi Press" from this terrible punishment.

The severe rule of the authorities has managed to put out of existence all the newspapers which were born out of the *swadeshi* agitation—and it is the *Sonar Bharat* alone which has survived them all. If that be the reason why this paper has become an eyesore to the authorities, they could have easily prohibited the publication of the paper by an open order; we would in that case have immediately ceased publishing the paper.

Besides, considering that there is no chance of any newspaper publishing anything which may glorify the nation, that newspapers are not allowed to encourage their countrymen in any noble deed, that newspapers are not to publish the annals of ancient heroism in the East, or to point out to the rulers of the land any errors which they (the rulers) may commit, it is no good for newspapers to drag on a spiritless existence. Just as widows curse Raja Ram-mohan Ray and Lord William Bentinck for having abolished the *Sati* system, and thus prevented them from putting an end to their sufferings, we now curse Lord Metcalfe for granting India freedom of the Press which has put us to such trouble and pain. If Lord Metcalfe had not done so, the editor, the publisher and the printer of this newspaper would never have to suffer so much trouble, loss and punishment. Lord Metcalfe granted freedom of the Press, because he knew that it was through the Press that the Government could have an idea of the thoughts and feelings of the people. The present-day authorities do not indeed destroy freedom of the Press, but they do not at the same time allow newspapers any liberty to speak their opinions frankly.

We should like to say one thing more: the wars between the Devas and the Asuras form a topic which every Hindu reads and discusses. We fail to understand why the officials think that it is they themselves who are meant by Asuras, and why they get frightened at the very mention of the feud between the Devas and the Asuras. Many plays, which are based on Puranic events, contain songs which are much more fiery than the poem "Mahanisay Jagaran"; but no action is ever taken against such plays. Why then has this poem been considered to be objectionable? We hope that our countrymen will try their best to prevent the injury which is about to be inflicted on us, and that His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor and the Magistrate of Howrah will kindly save the "Sulabh Hitaishi Press" from this unjust *sulum*, and thus earn the thanks of the public.

ALPAGON,
Feb. 1st, 1909.

7. The *Alpanch* [Bankipore] of the 1st February says, that the prolonged trial of the Anarchists at Alipur has caused uneasiness among the public, who have now begun to fear that the heavy expenses on the side of the Government incurred in conducting the case may possibly be met by the imposition of an extra tax on the whole country, which may then suffer for the misconduct of a few mischievous persons.

8. The *Dainik Chandrika* [Calcutta] of the 1st February says that the terribly heavy sentences passed upon the three accused in the Midnapore bomb case by Mr. Smithers, Additional Sessions Judge, have astounded the Calcutta public, both native and European, specially as the prosecution witnesses had completely broken down under cross-examination, and both the Assessors had pronounced all the accused not guilty.

DAINIK CHANDRIKA,
February 1st, 1909.

9. Referring to the judgment in the Midnapore bomb conspiracy case, the *Hindustan* [Calcutta] of the 4th February observes that if the Judge really meant to do what he liked, why did he play the farce of consulting the Assessors? Really, decisions like these give a rude shock to the loyalty of the people; but where is the man who understands it?

HINDUSTAN,
Feb. 4th, 1909.

10. Referring to the judgment passed in the case under the Explosives Act at Midnapore, the *Sri Sri Vishnupriya-o-Ananda Basar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 5th February

SRI SRI VISHNU-
PRIYA-O-ANANDA
BASAR PATRIKA,
Feb. 5th, 1909.

writes:— We were under the impression that a change was gradually coming over the spirit of Government officers, but the decision in the Midnapore case has changed our opinion. No one should wonder at the severe sentences passed by the Sessions Judge, as Sessions Judges cannot gauge the degrees of heinousness in crimes, and their judgments are often reversed by the High Court. The sentence of 20 years' transportation passed on Chidambaram Pillay by the Sessions Judge of Tinnevely was considered too severe by the High Court, which reduced it by 14 years. Again in the Commilla shooting case the prisoners condemned to death were honourably acquitted by the High Court.

The people have full confidence in Sir Edward Baker. His Honour is full of courage, and is thoroughly discriminating. He will not follow the beaten track, and will always adopt the methods that will allay the unrest and establish a firm rule. The people believe that His Honour does not allow himself to be guided by his subordinates.

It is our belief that the unrest is gradually increasing, because of the excesses committed by the police, which, no doubt, lay at the root of the Midnapore case. Will not the Government do anything to lighten the heavy sentences passed on the three accused persons in the case? The Government of Bombay has commuted the sentence of transportation passed on Mr. Tilak by the High Court, and the Government of Bengal should do something to lessen the severity of the sentence passed in the present case.

11. Referring to the judgment passed by Mr. Smithers in the Midnapore conspiracy case, the *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 5th February says, that when the Assessors in the case returned a verdict of not guilty, the public has every right to doubt the correctness of the judgment passed by the Court. The case will most probably go to the High Court on appeal. It will, therefore, be premature to criticise its merits at present. The Lieutenant-Governor should, nevertheless, institute a sifting inquiry into the alleged conspiracy.

HITAVADI,
Feb. 5th, 1909.

12. The *Howrah Hitavadi* [Howrah] of the 6th February, after giving a history of the Midnapore bomb case, in one place of which it says that every one who was directly or indirectly connected with *sauvadesh* movement was hauled up by the police, comments as follows on the judgment delivered in the case by Mr. Smithers, the Additional Sessions Judge of Midnapore:—

HOWRAH HITAVADI,
Feb. 6th, 1909.

Everybody is aware from the depositions of the prosecution as well as the defence witnesses of the unusual conduct of the police, and of the connection of the Government officials with the case. Every impartial and intelligent man, who contemplates the manner in which the confessions of the accused persons were obtained, on which the whole case depended, must be suspicious of the whole affair, and both the Assessors pronounced a verdict of "not guilty" on the accused persons. Even the Judge himself during the hearing of the case expressed the opinion that the revolver produced by the police did not resemble the one used by Kudiram Bose at Muzaffarpur, and so it could not help the prosecution, and most people thought that the prisoners would surely get some benefit of this doubt of the Judge, even if he did not

agree with the verdict of the Assessors; but being unable to read the lengthy judgment, we are still in doubt as to how the Judge could decide this important question, and as to how he could disbelieve the evidence of respectable people.

We do not hesitate to express it freely that the Judge could not maintain at the time of delivering the judgment the good impulses which ruled his conduct at the hearing of the case.

BASUMATI,
Feb. 6th, 1900.

13. Referring the judgment passed by Mr. Smithers in the Midnapore conspiracy case, the *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 6th February says, that even granting that the Judge's finding is correct, it must be said that the sentences passed on the accused persons have been extremely severe. The *Indian Daily News* also has said the same thing. Besides this, when the Assessors in the case found the accused persons not guilty, they ought to have been lightly punished.

(d)—Education.

BIHAR BANDHU,
Jan. 30th, 1900.

14. One Ram Lagan Sinha, signing himself as a teacher of the Upper Primary School at Balua (Saran), writes to the *Bihar Bandhu* [Bankipur] of the 30th January to say that Government should lose no time to make Primary Education free in Bengal, as was proposed to be done sometime ago, and also to improve the condition of the Upper Primary Schools by providing better houses and more qualified teachers. Should Government plead want of funds, the writer would recommend consolidation instead of the present policy of expansion which to the writer only means waste of money.

HITAVADI,
Feb. 5th, 1900.

15. About a year ago, writes the *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 5th February, Sir Henry Craik, a veteran educationist of England, said that the object of public education in India was "to turn an Oriental mind into a bad imitation of a Western mind." In Ireland also the British Government follows the same policy as regards public education. In 1903, Sir Arthur Griffiths, in the course of an address delivered before the National Council of Dublin, said:—
"Education in Ireland encumbers the intellect, chills the fancy, debases the soul, and enervates the body. It cuts off the Irishman from his tradition; and by denying him a country, debases his soul, stores his mind with lumber and nonsense, destroys his fancy by cutting him off from his tradition, and enervates his body by denying him physical culture."

Is not public education in India tainted with similar faults? In colour, religion and pedigree Irishmen are one with Englishmen. But the Indian has nothing in common with the Englishman, nay, in many points they are diametrically opposed to each other. His interest is, in many cases, antagonistic to that of the Englishman, and *vice versa*. In this state of things, it is easily conceivable that the educational policy of Englishmen will be much more narrow in India than in Ireland. An independent people and a dependent people cannot both prosper under one and the same educational system. At least European Powers do not, and perhaps cannot give, their subjects the same sort of high education as obtains in their own countries. It is because the United States Government wants to train the Phillipinos into a free and civilised people, that it is giving them an education in almost all respects similar to that obtaining in the United States. And education in the Phillipines is bearing the desired fruit of making the inhabitants of the country fit for the onerous duties and heavy responsibilities of a free people. The education, continues the writer, which Indian students receive in the public schools and colleges in their own country, gives them a wider knowledge of the history, religion, literature, etc., of a foreign country, than of those of their own. In fact, they are generally compelled to learn all the perverse theories of ignorant Englishmen on the history of their country. This sort of education is antagonistic to development of a true patriotic spirit in them. Such an education does more harm than good to the community, and hinders the development of those faculties which are necessary for the welfare of the society. Every intelligent man in the country has now come to realise that the cause of the degeneration of Indian youths lies in the system of education now obtaining.

among them. And that is why men like Sir Gurudas Banerjee, Dr. Rash Behari Ghose, Babu Ravindranath Tagore, etc., have been trying to introduce a system of education suited to the condition of this country. The anti-partition agitation has made their efforts successful, and a National College has been established in Calcutta, with twenty or twenty-five institutions in the mufassal affiliated to it.

16. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 6th February says that Mr. Sharpe, the Director of Public Instruction, Eastern Bengal and Assam, has prevented the staging of a Bengali drama named "Padmini" by the students of the Dacca College. This drama has been on the public stages in Calcutta for a long time. And for the purpose of being staged by the students of the Dacca College, it was carefully revised and amended by a Hindu Professor and a Maulvi of the college, and was also approved by the Nabab of Dacca and an English expert. But simply on the representation of a few Musalman students, Mr. Sharpe has stopped the staging of the book in the college. He has thus encouraged the wilfulness and anti-Hindu spirit of the Musalman students, and proved himself incompetent to be the head of the Education Department of the new Province. The *Amrita Basar Patrika* has advised the parties concerned to sue Mr. Sharpe for damages, but this they cannot do without giving up all hopes of further prosecuting their studies.

BASUMATI,
Feb. 6th, 1909.

17. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 6th February strongly protests against the expulsion of one Sachindra Ghosh from the Dacca College by Mr. Salkeld, the Principal of the College, apparently on the ground that he was suspected to have been a member of the local Anusilan Samiti. If Sachindra was suspected to have been a member of the society after it had been proclaimed, he might have been proceeded against in a Law Court, and then he would have got an opportunity of being heard in defence. Instead of doing that, the authorities have done the greatest injustice to him by hitting him below the belt and thus blasting his career as a student.

BASUMATI,
Feb. 6th, 1909.

(1)—Questions affecting the land.

18. The *Nihar* [Contai] of the 2nd February publishes a communicated letter, in which the writer points out the irregularities in the survey and settlement work in the Midnapore district, resulting in the enhancement of the rent payable by the raiyats. The chief object of the officer seems to have been to enhance the rent somehow or other. Under the law objection has to be filed within one month of the publication of the rent-roll. But most of the raiyats being totally illiterate and ignorant, have no idea of survey and settlement work. How then can they be expected to file objection? As a matter of fact, very few objections have been filed, and fewer still of those who did file objections have obtained the relief sought for. Now, what steps are proposed to be taken in these cases? Again, in many cases *mal* lands have been entered as *lakhras* lands and *vice versa*. In consequence of this irregularity by the Settlement officer, expensive litigation between landlords and tenants is certain to arise, which will not surely be to the credit of this officer.

NIHAR,
Feb. 2nd, 1909.

Some ignorant people are giving out that the enhancement of rent at the rate of three annas per rupee will be for thirty years only. This enhancement is being made by the Government on account of the rise in the prices of the crops. But the prices as published in the *Calcutta Gazette* from time to time are too high. The reason is that the officers usually select a limited area of the best field where the crops are the best, and cut the crops therefrom; and often immediately threshing the green, undried corn, weigh it, and thus form their estimate and submit their reports. This is what is known as the "crop-cutting experiment." This method is manifestly unfair, and can never be accepted as an accurate method of arriving at a correct estimate of the crops grown on all lands. It is clear, therefore, that the calculation made by Government, being based on these reports, must be wrong.

DAINIK CHANDRIKA,
Feb. 1st, 1909.

(A)—General.

19. The *Dainik Chandrika* [Calcutta] of the 1st February writes:—
The Reform Scheme and the Muhammadans. Lord Morley is reported by Reuter to have said that he could not displease the Muhammadans; for if the Muhammadans were dissatisfied, the Sultan of Turkey might think that the British were doing injustice to them; such a belief, if it should come to be entertained in Turkey, would be disastrous in its consequences. But it seems hardly possible that a Liberal Minister like Lord Morley should express such sentiments. In the new Turkish Parliament, all distinctions of caste or creed have been abolished. How, then, can it be imagined that Lord Morley would think of introducing class distinctions to please Turkey? That the British Lion should be obliged, through-fear, to give up his independence in order to please others, has been an impossible supposition to us. The Musalmans seem to have taken up a defiant attitude. The Burma Musalmans have said that "they are loyal to a fault." To yield to the Musalman demand, would be an act of weakness on the part of Lord Morley.

DAINIK CHANDRIKA,
Feb. 3rd, 1909.

20. The *Dainik Chandrika* [Calcutta] of the 3rd February is convinced that Lord Morley has been obliged to modify his original proposals for the reconstruction of the Legislative Councils, in order to please the Musalmans, powerfully backed as they are by the Anglo-Indians. That this should be so is no wonder. Every statesman is not a John Bright. But the problem is not likely to be solved by the contemplated sanction of class representation. The Musalmans are subdivided into two powerful sects—the Shias and Sunnis—which are in deadly opposition to each other. Lord Minto has not been well-advised in the matter. Infinite complications will arise, if representation of the classes and the interests be once decided upon. Already the Marwari community in Calcutta has asked for separate representation. There are other communities which will certainly insist upon having separate representation, and the situation is likely to be one of great confusion.

HITAVADI,
Feb. 5th, 1909.

21. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 5th February says, that it appears from Lord Morley's reply to the deputation headed by Mr. Amir Ali which waited on him on the subject of the proposed Reforms that there is still the possibility of some of the proposals being altered and amended. It is because the rulers of the country are introducing the principle of class representation that so much is being heard of class interests. But when the political interests of both Hindus and Musalmans are the same in India, it will be wrong to sacrifice the country's interest for the sake of promoting class interests. When the Muhammadans will actually take the field of politics, they will realise the futility of separate representation of which they seem to be fond at present.

HOWRAH HITAIISHI,
Feb. 6th, 1909.

22. Referring to the address of the Muhammadan deputation that waited upon Lord Morley and His Lordship's reply to it, the *Howrah Hitaiishi* [Howrah] of the 6th February writes:—
Lord Morley and the Muhammadan deputation.

Lord Morley does not wish to appoint either a Hindu or a Musalman to the Viceroy's Executive Council as either Hindu or Musalman, but simply as an Indian. But we are alarmed to hear His Lordship's opinion about electoral colleges. Even mixed electorates such as are proposed by His Lordship cannot be said to fully help the building up of a nation; and if over and above this, separate electoral colleges be made for the Musalmans, we are afraid the proposed Reforms would do harm to India instead of doing good to it.

BASUMATI,
Feb. 6th, 1909.

23. Referring to the deputation of Musalmans that waited on Lord Morley on the subject of the Reform Scheme, the *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 6th February says, that it appears from His Lordship's reply that the scheme will be somewhat changed so as to give scope to the policy of divide-and-rule, a policy which, if ill-directed, recoils on its authors. In refusing a separate Musalman member in the Viceroy's Executive Council, His

Lordship has considered all Indians as one people. But the principle thus inculcated does not square with the principle of giving separate representation to Musalmans in the Legislative Councils. Neither the Councils Act of 1861 nor its Amending Act of 1892 considers Hindus and Musalmans as two separate bodies to be separately dealt with in the political field of India. It is only since the partition of Bengal that people are hearing the story of Musalmans having distinct political interests of their own in the land. Will Lord Morley too encourage this policy of political bifurcation and antagonism.

24. Referring to Sir Henry Cotton's letter to the *Westminster Gazette* advocating the release of Babu Krishna Kumar Mitra, the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 3rd February writes:—

Sir Henry Cotton and the deported men.

DAILY HITAVADI,
Feb. 3rd, 1909.

It is our belief, as well as that of the general public, that none of the gentlemen who were deported advocated revolution; and if Sir Henry Cotton had known them, he would not have remained content with praising Babu Krishna Kumar alone. Even Sir Bampfylde Fuller, who was known to be very unpopular, had nothing but praise for Babu Asvini Kumar Dutt, who was an unassuming worker for the good of the country and of the distressed people.

The Resolution of 1818 is being condemned everywhere in the country, and Government should not put it in force. It is the belief of most of the people that Government has erred in deporting these gentlemen, and as no one is free from error, the prestige of Government would be enhanced in the eyes of the public if it rectifies the error.

25. The reply given to Government by Mr. Sukumar Mitter, the son of Babu Krishna Kumar Mitter, one of the deportees, in which the former declines to accept the amount offered by the Government for the support of the Babu's family, appears to the *Hitvarta* [Calcutta] of the 4th February to show the spirit and self-respect of the writer of the reply. Money, says the paper, is nothing before honour. What Indian therefore would not be imbued with a sense of self-respect, seeing that India still possesses gems like Mr. Sukumar Mitter? India is still a mother because of such sons.

Deportation allowance.

HITVARTA,
Feb. 4th, 1909.

26. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 5th February says that the Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam has as yet made no arrangements to give allowance to the families of the gentlemen deported from places within its jurisdiction. This is provoking all sorts of comments from the public. It is hoped that the Lieutenant-Governor of Eastern Bengal and Assam will at once do the needful in the matter.

No allowance to families of deportees from Eastern Bengal.

HITAVADI,
Feb. 5th, 1909.

27. Under the marginally-noted heading, the *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 4th February writes:—

How to restore peace to Bengal?

Against the unanimous protest of the entire Bengali nation, Lord Curzon partitioned Bengal with a stroke of his pen. And what has been the result? A terrific storm arose, the like of which was never witnessed in the whole country. The whole of India was shaken by the mighty waves that arose. In vain did Government pursue a relentlessly repressive policy; the convulsion could not be stopped. Repressive laws can gag the mouth, but cannot heal the wound caused by the partition of the country. In its despair Government has launched the Reform Scheme. But it should not be forgotten that "there is many a slip between the cup and the lip." Many are the obstacles that must be overcome before the scheme can be introduced. Supposing, however, that it is successfully introduced, will it succeed in allaying the discontent? We do not deny that if the proposed reforms are introduced, they will, in spite of all their defects, carry us forward in the desired path to some extent. But will it avail anything to apply a soothing plaster on the surface while the wound in the heart caused by the partition remains as it is underneath? Has Government realised, we again ask, how grievously the partition has affected the whole country? Many are the people who have suffered for their country. Nobody yet knows why nine Bengalis have been banished. Are we to understand that the high character, the unalloyed love of country, and the influence on their countrymen, which most of them possess, have brought upon them

SANJIVANI,
Feb. 5th, 1909.

this misfortune? Is it by such a measure that Government means to restore peace? Will the partition wound be healed by this means? Can the mere addition of a few members to the Legislative Councils bring peace to a people over whose heads Regulation III of 1848 hangs like the sword of Damocles, and whose best men can be banished without a trial? Can a people have any ground for consolation who can be subjected to any repressive law by the merest will of the rulers? What hope can a country entertain whose patriotic clubs can be suppressed by a stroke of the pen? If Government be sincerely anxious for peace, this repressive policy must be given up, the partition of Bengal must be withdrawn, the deported persons must be restored to liberty, and amnesty must be granted to political prisoners. The Hon'ble Mr. Gokhale has also expressed the same views. The Bengalis will not give up the boycott of foreign goods, unless and until the partition is withdrawn. Lord Morley's Reform Scheme embodies many fair proposals no doubt, but no mere reforms will succeed in plucking out the rooted sorrow that weighs upon the bosom. We are earnestly appealing to our misguided countrymen not to resort to questionable methods, but they seem not disposed to listen to us. If to-day Government will stand before us with the flag of peace in hand, will withdraw the partition of Bengal and send the deported back to their homes, the misguided men will also turn back. How can we accept Lord Morley's reform proposals with satisfaction, so long as the wound in our heart is not healed? We wanted bread, but Government has given us a stone.

HITVARTA,
Feb. 4th, 1909.

28. The *Hitvarta* [Calcutta] of the 4th February asks if there is any truth in the announcement of the *Vanity Fair* that Lord Minto means to retire before the term of his office expires on the ground of Lady Minto's ill-health, but really because of the difference of opinion between His Excellency and Lord Morley about the repressive policy which the former is advocating.

SRI SRI VISHNUPRIYA-
O-ANANDA BASAR
PATRIKA,
Feb. 5th, 1909.

29. Referring to the speech delivered by Sir Edward Baker in the Legislative Council the *Sri Sri Vishnupriya-o-Anandabazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 5th February writes:—

Though Sir Edward Baker has spoken very tersely about the duties of Government officials in connection with the Reform Scheme, yet His Honour's sincerity of mind, honesty of purpose, and zealous desire to work out the Reform Scheme have been clearly proved. We, therefore, offer our thanks to His Honour.

BHARAT MITRA,
Feb. 6th, 1909.

30. Referring to the address of Sir Edward Baker in the Legislative Council exhorting his sub-officials to give every help in carrying out Lord Morley's scheme the *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 6th February observes that the speech shows that a new day in the matter of good-will between the rulers and the ruled is about to dawn in the country. When the highest authority is in favour of the scheme there is every hope of a change for the better in the attitude of such officials. The journal is very anxious to see the glorious day.

BANGAVASI,
Feb. 6th, 1909.

31. Referring to the speech recently delivered by Sir Edward Baker in His Honour's Council the *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 6th February writes:—

He who brings the tidings of peace to the distracted people of Bengal deserves their blessing. Among the rulers there are some who are anxious to see the people co-operate with them in the work of administration. But there are evil-minded Anglo-Indians and writers of Anglo-Indian newspapers who, like the Rakshasas of old, are ever engaged in mischief. It is a pity that the fair-minded among the rulers have, in their speeches, uniformly advised the people to co-operate with the Government, but have said nothing about what the rulers themselves should do. Sir Andrew Fraser, in his farewell speech at St. Andrew's Dinner, said the same thing; and Lords Minto and Morley have also pointed out the duty of the people of this country. But none of them ever said what was the duty of the rulers. O! rulers of India, have you no duty to the people of this country? If the ruled have their duty, have not the rulers also theirs? Up till now, no one has dared to speak about the duty of the rulers. But our new Lieutenant-Governor

has said it. What courage, what a high spirit, what sincerity, what fearlessness has His Honour displayed! In his speech in the Council, he has clearly pointed out what the members of the Civil Service should do to ensure the success of the Reform Scheme. The sweet utterances of His Honour have been quite a treat to us. If his advice be followed, peace will return to the country. It seems to us that His Honour will not rest satisfied merely with offering advice.

DAILY HITAVADI,
Feb. 9th, 1909.

32. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 8th February refers to an incident that happened at Dacca in which a Bengali clerk, when entering into the Government house under instructions from Mr. H. Buller, C.I.E.,

A Bengali clerk assaulted by Gurkha sentinels at Dacca. was severely assaulted by the Gurkha sentinels at the gate. The paper then comments as follows on the action of Mr. Buller in refusing to take steps in the matter, on the ground that the Gurkhas were also beaten:—

We have been surprised at the decision of Mr. Buller. Though he may ignore the incident, yet is there no remedy for the assault on the Babu by three or four Gurkhas? Is Mr. Buller's action quite in keeping with the advice given by Lord Morley to the Government officials to properly treat the Indians?

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

33. In the course of a long article headed "Hindus and Musalmans" the *Bihar Bandhu* [Bankipur] of the 20th January

BIHAR BANDHU,
Jan. 20th, 1909.

The Titagarh Riots.

refers to the incidents at Titagarh and other places during the last *Bark-Id* and says that these quarrels between the two communities were unknown in pre-British days. While refraining from enquiring into the secret cause of the riots, the paper only points out that any quarrel between the Hindus and the Musalmans not only injures them, but the mother-country as well, and quotes from history to show that Aurangzeb was opposed in the Deccan not only by the Hindus but by the Muhammadans also. The Musalmans held high offices in the Court of Ranjit Singh. The Muhammadan invaders of Bengal were opposed not only by the Muhammadans but by the Hindus too. The relation of the conqueror and the conquered no longer exists between them. India is now the mother-country of the Musalmans as much as of the Hindus. Even now there are national Muhammadans like Sir Yusuf Khan, Mr. A. Rasul, and the old self-sacrificed Mr. A. H. Ghaznavi, who have always joined the Hindus in the national cause. The paper then exhorts the Muhammadans to protect the cows whose destruction has brought on dire famine in the country and live in unity with the Hindus.

34. The *Mihir o-Sudhakar* [Calcutta] of the 5th February publishes the following letter from one Maulvi Aolad Ali, of the village of Sankardi, within the Kustea Sub division

MIHIR-O-SUDHAKAR,
Jan. 5th, 1909.

A cow-killing dispute in Kustia.

of the Nadia district:—

I had been sacrificing kine every year without any hitch, but this year, on the 20th *Kartik* last Babu Surendra Nath Barat, the Manager of Srijuktá Nagendra Bala Gupta, zemindar, and an inhabitant of Meherpur, came to Sankandi *kachari* and told me, "You must not sacrifice kine from this year, and if you do so we shall drive you out of your house and home. If you do not desist even then, your life will be in danger." After this, on the 27th *Kartik* I submitted a petition to the District Magistrate stating all these. A few days later, the Deputy Magistrate of Kustea came to our village, but he did not then find the Manager Babu. On meeting me he asked, "Where is the sacrifice done? On my showing him the place, he said "It would be better if another place were selected instead of this." Then we selected another place and showed it to the Magistrate. He approved of that place and left orders for performing the sacrifice there; but he did not enquire anything about the Manager Babu. After the departure of the Magistrate, the Hindus began to make elaborate preparations for preventing the sacrifice from being performed. Then informed the Magistrate that the sacrifice

would be performed on Monday, the 26th *Pous*. Accordingly a Police Sub-Inspector came on Sunday, the 19th *Pous*, for keeping the peace. But on Monday morning a large number of men belonging to Sriyukt Nagendra Bala Gupta and Babu Indubhusan Mallik, zemindars, assembled at the place of sacrifice armed with *lathis*. The Sub-Inspector told them not to interfere with religious performances. They did not listen to it. The *lathials* of the Mallik Babus remained surrounding the place which had been selected by the Magistrate for the sacrifice. The Sub-Inspector Babu, on seeing the large number of *lathials*, prohibited the performance of the sacrifice on that day, and sent for more help from the police. Then the Magistrate brought a police force from Kumarkhali and the Sadar, and came here on the very night. The Hindus, on hearing about the Magistrate's arrival, fled away. The sacrifice was performed on Tuesday without any hitch. The police took down the names of the *lathials*, who had assembled on the previous day. As the Hindus could not stop the sacrifice, they are now trying to put me to trouble. I am afraid lest they should kill me some day. I can feel easy only if the Magistrate binds them down with sureties, otherwise there is no certainty as to when they may put me to trouble. I hope that the authorities, who help the weak, will listen to this piteous prayer of mine.

Maolana Sah Sufi Muhammad Abubakar, the Pir and Morsed, who is celebrated in Bengal, will visit the village of Sankardi on the 29th *Magh* next.

DAILY HITAVADI,
Feb. 3rd, 1909.

35. Referring to a rumour about Dr. Ashutosh Mukherjee's appointment to the Viceroy's Executive Council, the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 3rd February writes:—
Dr. Mukherjee having won the hearts of the Government officials by his winning qualities, there is nothing to be surprised at in his nomination for the Viceroy's Executive Council. Why should not Dr. Mukherjee be allowed the privilege of serving Government in three different capacities by those very persons who have put him in the High Court Bench, and also at the head of the Calcutta University?

DAINIK CHANDRIKA,
Feb. 3rd, 1909.

36. Referring to the report published in the *London Daily Mail* that Dr. Ashutosh Mukherjee is to be appointed as a member in the Viceroy's Executive Council, the *Dainik Chandrika* [Calcutta] of the 3rd February says, that apart from questions of eligibility, the proposed appointment is open to objection on the principle that officers of the Judicial Department should not be taken into the Executive Department. If Dr. Mukherjee be appointed in violation of this principle, the pledge given by the Government at the time when Sir Harvey Adamson was appointed to his present post would be broken.

SANJIVANI,
Feb. 4th, 1909.

37. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 4th February opposes the alleged proposed appointment of Justice Ashutosh Mukherjee as Law Member in the Viceroy's Council, on the ground (1) that the transfer of an officer of the Judicial Department to the Executive Department is undesirable, and (2) that in spite of his high attainments, Dr. Mukherjee does not possess the confidence of his countrymen.

HITAVADI,
Feb. 4th, 1909.

38. Referring to the rumour that Dr. Ashutosh Mukherjee will be appointed a member of the Viceroy's Council, the *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 4th February says that, irrespective of the question as to whether this particular rumour is true or false, a High Court Judge should never be put under the temptation of future promotion at the hands of the authorities, lest he should thereby be deviated from the path of strict justice and impartiality in the discharge of his judicial duties. The authorities should do nothing which can interfere with the dignity and devotion to justice of High Court Judges.

DAINIK CHANDRIKA,
Feb. 5th, 1909.

39. The *Dainik Chandrika* [Calcutta] of the 5th February is glad that the rumour of Dr. Ashutosh Mukherjee being appointed a member of the Viceroy's Executive Council has turned out to be false, and says that

Dr. Rash Behari Ghose is the fittest person for the distinction, although there is the hitch of his not being a Barrister-at-Law.

40. Referring to the rumour about Dr. Ashutosh Mukherjee's appointment to the Viceroy's Executive Council, the *Howrah Hitavarta* [Howrah] of the 6th February says that it will be a great misfortune to the country if the rumour turns out to be true.

Rumour about Dr. Ashutosh Mukherjee's appointment to the Viceroy's Executive Council.

Theft of Lord Curzon's wine-cooler prepared from the Indian presents.

41. Lord Curzon's turning the Indian presents to a wine-cooler, theft of which is now reported in newspapers, is adversely commented on in the *Hitavarta* [Calcutta] of the 4th February.

42. In continuing its criticism of Dr. Ghose's speech at the last session of the Madras Congress from its previous article (vide page 178 of Report for the week ending the 6th February 1909), the *Hitavarta* [Calcutta] of the 4th February takes for its text the portion in which Dr. Ghose disclaims those who differed from him as having ever belonged to his party, and says that Hindi vocabulary has hardly words to express an adequate reply to the Dr.'s statement, as having fallen under Sir Mehta's influence, he had already forgotten himself and made statements, a perusal of which makes one shudder.

43. The *Mihir-o-Sudhakar* [Calcutta] of the 5th February publishes a poem headed "In the morning," written by one Mahammad Mahibuddin, in which the writer urges and implores the Mussalmans to try their best to improve their degraded condition, and bear in mind the predictions of their religious books which say that Mussalmans will ultimately be the rulers of the whole world. The writer says:—

"Arise, spurn at idleness! How long would you suffer insults from men belonging to a different race? Gird up your loins to take revenge with a firm mind! If you remain inactive any longer, even those things that you had before will be lost to you!"

44. The *Dainik Chandrika* [Calcutta] of the 5th February accuses the Anglo-Indian Press, with the *Englishman* at its head, of a vile conspiracy against the Indians, with the object of representing them as Nihilists to the English public by means of false and grossly exaggerated accounts of their movements. On the other hand, detailed accounts of Nihilist conspiracies and manœuvres elsewhere are being published in these papers and held up before the senseless madcaps of this country, and it behoves the Government to check them in this mischievous course before it is too late.

45. In an article on the boycott the *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 6th February speaks of only two methods of stopping the drain of wealth from the country: first, by persuading the people to use country-made articles, and secondly, flooding the market with such goods. But the first method is hardly safe, seeing how it is liable to be interpreted and the purveyor considered disloyal. Thoughtful men should therefore try to apply their savings in producing the various articles in this country at a cheap price, for otherwise the sin of people dying of starvation would be on their heads.

46. Referring to the incident that happened in the temple of Rodhaballav at Rajbari in Goswami Lakshmikol, the *Daily Hitavarta* [Calcutta] of the 6th February writes:—

There is no doubt that the incident has given a rude shock to the mind of every Hindu. But it is very hopeful to find that the Government officials, who are the only helpers in this difficulty, are not careless in the matter, but are vigorously enquiring about it. We hope that Government will try its best to dispel our fear by unravelling the mystery connected with it.

47. Referring to the incidents in the House of Commons in 1896, when questions were asked regarding Reporters' chairs made of foreign manufacture, the *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 6th February asks:—how do the Indians to blame when they speak of boycotting foreign goods?

HOWRAH HITAVARTA.
Feb. 6th, 1909.

HITAVARTA.
Feb. 4th, 1909.

HITAVARTA.
Feb. 4th, 1909.

MIHIR-O-SUDHAKAR.
Feb. 5th, 1909.

DAINIK CHANDRIKA.
Feb. 5th, 1909.

BHARAT MITRA.
Feb. 6th, 1909.

DAILY HITAVARTA.
Feb. 6th, 1909.

BHARAT MITRA.
Feb. 6th, 1909.

URIYA PAPERS.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD,
Dec. 23rd, 1908.

48. The *Uriya and Navasamvad* [Balasore] of the 23rd December has every sympathy for the Weaving School that has been started at Serampore, and hopes that the school will prove successful in the end.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD,
Dec. 23rd, 1908.

49. Referring to the house-searches that have been going on both in Bengal and Eastern Bengal, the *Uriya and Navasamvad* [Balasore] of the 23rd December observes that a very small number of senseless people have so behaved as to put many innocent men and women to trouble. The sooner these senseless and wicked men are crushed, the better.

SAMVAD VAHIKA,
Dec. 24th, 1908.

50. Referring to the distinction between Uriyas and domiciled Bengalis, which Government is reported to have emphasised in the matter of distributing law scholarships recently founded, and in the matter of hostel accommodation, the *Samvad Vahika* [Balasore] of the 24th December observes that no such distinction is necessary in the case of Uriyas and domiciled Bengalis, who live together for generations in Orissa.

SAMVAD VAHIKA,
Dec. 24th, 1908.

51. The *Samvad Vahika* [Balasore] of the 24th December has the following observations on the coming Administrative Reforms:—

The long-looked for Reform Schemes of Lord Morley are at last out. From that we find we have not got all we wanted. We are, however, thankful for what we have got, and hope for more in future. The most important features of the scheme are that Provincial Councils will be enlarged, and will have no official majority. The Councils will have power to ask supplementary questions, which will, to some extent, evade evasive answers from Government officials, as are now general. As regards budget, the Councils will be rather advisory. The India Council shall have official majority according to Lord Morley, though the India Government did not ask for such majority in ordinary questions. In the Provincial Councils the non-official members shall have powers of calling attention to public grievances by resolutions, though these resolutions will be in the form of recommendations at present for the Executives to consider.

Lord Morley has dealt largely with the mode of making elections, so that all communities now living in India would have chances to be elected proportionately according to the number of their population, and has therefore advised the formation of electoral colleges in different Provinces. We are however glad to state that the move towards local self-government is more solid. It will in future be relieved from endless and needless official interference to which it is now subject, and which has, up to now, marred its efficiency. Finally we find there is a proposal to raise important Provinces to the status of Presidency Government with Executive Councils. There are also proposals for the increase of the number of members in the Provincial Executive Councils of Madras and Bombay and for the association of an Indian in each such Council, not as a provision of statute but by practice and usage growing into confirmed rule.

SAMVAD VAHIKA,
Dec. 24th, 1908.

52. The *Samvad Vahika* [Balasore] of the 24th December publishes a correspondence from a resident of Sergarh, in which it is pointed out that the Sergarh Upper Primary School is not properly officered, the present officiating head teacher not being well trained under the new regulations. The educational authorities are therefore requested to provide the school with a trained teacher.

SAMVAD VAHIKA,
Dec. 24th, 1908.

53. The *Samvad Vahika* [Balasore] of the 24th December states that the annual prize distribution meeting in connection with the Balasore Zilla School passed off, as usual, quietly and successfully under the presidency of Mr. B. C. Sen, the Magistrate of that district. In his presidential speech, Mr. Sen pointed out that the number of Muhammadan pupils in that school was only 28 against 200, the entire number.

This was a matter of regret. He also noticed that some guardians have great aversion towards physical exercises that are as necessary as mental exercises. He was very sorry to learn that one student had behaved improperly towards a European lady, and that a company of students had insulted a European gentleman of the station. Being a sixteen anna *swadeshi* Indian, he could not bear this improper conduct on the part of students, who knew not what *swadeshi* was. At any rate it was his misfortune to see *swadeshi* students misbehaving within the jurisdiction of a *swadeshi* District Magistrate.

54. The *Nilachal Samachar* [Puri] of the 25th December objects to the appointment of Pandit Damodar Ramuja Das as an examiner in the Sanskrit Title and other Sanskrit examinations, on the ground that he is not a Uriya scholar and that he does not belong to Orissa.

An objection.

Nilachal Samachar,
Dec. 25th, 1908.

55. The *Nilachal Samachar* [Puri] of the 25th December states that thefts of paddy have become common in the Bhadrak Subdivision of the Balasore District, and that it is suspected that even persons belonging to the gentleman class are directly or indirectly connected with these crimes.

Nilachal Samachar,
Dec. 25th, 1908.

56. The *Nilachal Samachar* [Puri] of the 25th December states that Mr. Ananda Mahanty, a merchant of the Puri town, has provided each of two thousand Brahmins with one blanket and pice, varying from one anna to two annas, after feeding him properly with *Mahaprasad* in honour of the anniversary of his father's death. This generous act has no doubt given great relief to a large number of poor Brahmins.

The liberality of Mr. Ananda Mahanty.

Nilachal Samachar,
Dec. 25th, 1908.

57. The *Nilachal Samachar* [Puri] of the 25th December states that the poor men and women in the Bhadrak Subdivision of Balasore District have suffered much from winter on account of want of clothes. This is no doubt very lamentable.

The poor in Bhadrak suffering from winter.

Nilachal Samachar,
Dec. 25th, 1908.

58. The *Garjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 26th December states that Babu Khetramohan Bhattacharyya, a teacher of the Khurda Higher-English School, beat one of his pupils so severely as to cause him nearly to lose one of his eyes. This savagery must not be permitted in a public school.

Savage treatment in a public school.

Garjatbasini,
Dec. 26th, 1908.

59. The *Garjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 26th December speaks highly of Sir Edward Norman Baker who paid a visit to the Alipur Jail with a view to inspect the condition of political offenders under trial in that jail, and of Lady Baker, who condescended to pay visits to the respectable Indian ladies residing in Calcutta, and observes that this sympathetic mode of dealing with Indians will no doubt bring about good feelings, which are so very necessary at the present time.

Loyalty.

Garjatbasini,
Dec. 26th, 1908.

60. The *Garjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 26th December states that an infant of 3 years old belonging to village Jharabani in Talcher was suddenly carried off by a daring jackal and was afterwards recovered with great difficulty by its mother. This is looked upon as very unusual in Talcher.

A child in Talcher carried off by a jackal but recovered.

Garjatbasini,
Dec. 26th, 1908.

61. A correspondent of the *Garjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 26th December states that Babu Prasad Sing, the Sub-Inspector of Angul, has, with the permission of the Deputy Commissioner of that District, founded a market near Bantala in that District, which promises to be very successful in the near future.

The new Bantala market in Angul.

Garjatbasini,
Dec. 26th, 1908.

62. The *Garjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 26th December supports the opinion of its contemporary of the *Nilachal Samachar* that the *Mahaprasad* diet now offered to the lepers residing in the Lokenath Leper Asylum in Puri, should be at once stopped, and the money thus spent on the *Mahaprasad* by the *maths* should be laid out in providing the lepers with more healthy food.

The diet in the Leper Asylum, Puri, not approved.

Garjatbasini,
Dec. 26th, 1908.

63. The *Sambalpur Hitaisini* [Bamra] of the 26th December approves of the action of the Nagpur authorities in stopping the Congress of the Extremists in that town, for, had the Extremists succeeded in holding their annual meeting, they would have added to the prevailing unrest in the country.

The action of the Nagpur authorities approved.

Sambalpur Hitaisini,
Dec. 26th, 1908.

SAMBALPUR
HITAISHINI,
Dec. 26th, 1908.

64. The *Sambalpur Hitaishini* [Bamra] of the 26th December apprehends that the export of rice from the Orissa Garjats will tend to raise the price of that important article of food everywhere, and bring about a state of things not very desirable. The writer therefore advises the Bamra public to be very careful from the present time.

SAMBALPUR
HITAISHINI,
Dec. 26th, 1908.

65. The *Sambalpur Hitaishini* [Bamra] of the 26th December states, that though there has been a good crop in Angul, the price of rice in that district is as high as ever. It is said that the traders in salt form a contributory cause of this state of things.

UTKALBARTA,
Dec. 26th, 1908.

66. The *Utkalbarta* [Calcutta] of the 26th December approves of the appointment of Mr. Lalmohan Das in the place of Mr. Justice Sarada Charan Mitra, retired, and hopes that he will prove as just, impartial and intelligent as his predecessor.

UTKALBARTA,
Dec. 26th, 1908.

67. The *Utkalbarta* [Calcutta] of the 26th December states that rice sells at 10 seers and paddy at 22½ seers per rupee in Kendrapara, where the outturn from the rabi crop is also poor.

UTKALBARTA,
Dec. 26th, 1908.

68. The *Utkalbarta* [Calcutta] of the 26th December states that rice sells at 13 seers per rupee in Balasore. This no doubt gives great relief to the poor community.

UTKALBARTA,
Dec. 26th, 1908.

69. The *Utkalbarta* [Calcutta] of the 26th December states that several houses in the Christian village in Balasore town were burnt down by fire in the early hours of the morning. The District Magistrate, aided by the local Police officers, succeeded in extinguishing the fire. It is said that the District Magistrate has given some help to the sufferers from the fire.

UTKALDIPIKA,
Dec. 26th, 1908.

70. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 26th December approves of the resolution of Lord Morley to revise the regulations governing the Medical examinations in England, with a view to enable the Indians to pass them without any special difficulty.

UTKALDIPIKA,
Dec. 26th, 1908.

71. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 26th December observes that the nine distinguished men deported from Bengal and Eastern Bengal, under Regulation 3 of 1818, are generally respected by their countrymen for their good qualities. Consequently the people of Bengal are anxious to know the offences committed by these gentlemen. It is not advisable that the Government should keep the public long in the dark about this.

UTKALDIPIKA,
Dec. 26th, 1908.

72. Referring to the abolition of the B. L. and Pledership classes from the Ravenshaw College, the *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 26th December points out that the Principal of that College committed a mistake in abolishing the Pledership class, to which the abolition order of the Calcutta University does not apply. The Pledership class should therefore be revived without any more delay.

UTKALDIPIKA,
Dec. 26th, 1908.

73. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 26th December regrets to observe that poverty and ignorance have compelled many Uriya coolies to emigrate to distant places, whereby they have been put to great difficulties. Government is no doubt doing something to remove ignorance and poverty from Orissa, but that is not sufficient; greater endeavours should be made and more money spent in that direction.

UTKALDIPIKA,
Dec. 26th, 1908.

74. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 26th December has reason to believe that Mr. Garrett, the Collector of Cuttack, has submitted an able report to Government, pointing out the fact that the law governing the relations of landlord and tenant in Bengal cannot be applied to Orissa in all its details as the state of things in the latter Province is different in many particulars from what exist in the former. The writer supports Mr. Garrett, and is of opinion that a separate Act should be enacted for Orissa. The editor goes

the length of thanking Mr. Garrett for the good he has done not only to Cuttack, but to the whole of the Orissa Province by moving Government in the matter. What is strange is that owing to the operation of the Bengal Tenancy Act, raiyati lands in Orissa have become equal in value to the revenue free *lakshiraj* lands in that Province. Nay, in some cases they fetch a higher price than the latter class of lands. A law suited to the circumstances of the permanently settled Bengal cannot be expected to apply to the temporarily settled Orissa in all its details.

75. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 26th December thanks Lord Morley and Lord Minto for their liberal statesmanship in bringing forward proposals for the reform of the English administration in India, and observes that the partition of Bengal, which Lord Morley does not seem to approve, might have been easily avoided by bringing together all the Bengali-speaking districts under one Government. The reform proposals are no doubt good, but no accurate estimate of their effect on the people can be formed without going through the rules that may be formed under the Parliamentary Statute embodying the proposals in question. The writer hopes that Lord Morley will take into consideration the fact that the object of law, howsoever good, may be defeated by the apathy of officers, who may be required to give effect to the same.

67. The Mesumpur correspondent of the *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 26th December states that the Assistant Settlement Officer engaged in attestation work in the Salepur Thana, and now holding office at Pagahat, depends much on the oral statements of the parties, without taking the trouble of going into written evidence; and that this sort of proceeding has made the parties very anxious.

77. The Masumpur correspondent of the *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 26th December states that Babu Dinabandhu Misra, the Tahsil Panchayet of Misrapatna, is very regular in realising the chaukidari tax; but no one cares to examine whether the chaukidars and dafadars belonging to the union in question take the trouble of watching the villages for which they are paid.

78. The Jhankar correspondent of the *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 26th December is sorry to note that the Revision Settlement Officers have been a source of trouble to the people, who are compelled to neglect many of their important duties simply for the purpose of dancing attendance on the Amins.

79. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 26th December complains that the Jhankar post-office is unable to discharge its duties efficiently for want of a peon.

80. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 26th December states that three men in the Cuttack Municipal market were wounded by the careless running of an ox, whose ownership has not yet been determined. The market regulations in this matter should be more strict.

81. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 26th December states that about six persons in Cuttack were bitten by a jackal of whom one, who is a Police Officer, has already been sent to Kasauli for treatment. It is said that such accidents never occurred before in that town.

82. The Jhankar correspondent of the *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 26th December states that about 14 persons in the village Kantapara in Jhankar have died of cholera.

83. The Jhankar correspondent of the *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 26th December states that mango blossoms are rare in that part of the Cuttack district.

84. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 26th December states that the health of Cuttack is good.

UTKALDIPIKA,
Dec. 26th, 1908.

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UTKALDIPIKA,
Dec. 26th, 1908.

UTKALDIPIKA,
Dec. 26th, 1902.

85. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 26th December gives an account of the proceedings of a meeting held in the premises of the Peary Mohan Academy under the presidency of Mr. Levinge with the object of distributing prizes to the deserving students of that institution. It was clear from the report of the Secretary, Babu Baikuntha Nath Dutt, that the school has successfully worked for 33 years showing 347 students on its present rolls. The Uriya element preponderates. It is said that no other aided school in Orissa has so many students on its rolls. In the last matriculation examination a student of this school stood first in Orissa. After the distribution of prizes was over, Mr. Levinge, in his Presidential address, expressed great satisfaction at the successful working of the school. He exhorted the pupils of the institution to practise good moral principles and not to contaminate their persons by following the bad examples of certain misguided students in other parts of Bengal. The school is highly indebted for its success to the steady and strenuous labours of its present Secretary, Babu Baikuntha Nath Dutt.

RAJENDRA CHANDRA SASTRI,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,

The 13th February 1903.

REPORT (PART II)

ON

NATIVE-OWNED ENGLISH NEWSPAPERS IN BENGAL

FOR THE

Week ending Saturday, 13th February 1909.

CONTENTS.

	Page.		Page.
I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.		(g)—Railways and Communications, including Canals and Irrigation—	
Nil.		Nil.	
II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.		(h)—General—	
(a)—Police—		The Reform Scheme ...	45
The Birbhum murder case ...	43	The Liberal Ministry and the Reform Scheme ...	ib.
The Naria dacoity case ...	ib.	Sir Edward Baker's speech in Council ...	ib.
Ditto ...	ib.	Scramble for Council seats ...	ib.
Arrest of Babu Bassik Chandra Chakravarti ...	ib.	Treatment accorded to Government pensioners ...	46
		Separation of Judicial from Executive functions ...	ib.
		Ditto, ditto ...	46
(b)—Working of the Courts—		III.—LEGISLATION.	
The Midnapore case ...	44	Nil.	
The appointment of Sir Lawrence Jenkins to the Chief Justiceship of Bengal. ...	ib.		
The Tittagarh riots ...	ib.		
The Alipore case ...	ib.		
The Lahore murder case ...	ib.		
(c)—Jails—		IV.—NATIVE STATES.	
Nil.		Nil.	
(d)—Education—			
Nil.		V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.	
(e)—Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration—		Nil.	
Nil.			
(f)—Questions affecting the land—		VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.	
Nil.		Wanted a Committee of enquiry into the present high prices. ...	47

13. *Insertion of the following text:*

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

94. The *Hindoo Patriot* trusts His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor

HINDOO PATRIOT,
2nd Feb. 1909.

The Birbhun murder case.

will make a proper investigation of the Birbhun murder case which terminated in the acquittal of the accused—a Brahmin girl of sixteen years. She was charged with having murdered her husband's brother, and on the evidence produced before the Sessions Court by the Police, was sentenced to transportation for life. The case was appealed against, and the High Court acquitted her, disbelieving entirely the evidence adduced against the accused in the Lower Court, and furthermore their Lordships Justices Holmwood and Ryves in delivering their judgment felt no hesitation in denouncing the evidence as concocted and utterly untenable to secure a conviction. When the highest tribunal in the land has expressed such an unfavourable opinion on the conduct of the Police in connection with this case, it is hoped the Government will make a proper investigation into it and publish the result as early as possible. The public mind has been much excited in this matter, and nothing but a proper enquiry by Government could allay the excitement. The journal trusts Sir Edward Baker will be pleased to institute such an enquiry.

95. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* writes:—

The Naria dacoity case.

"The Reform Scheme would simply prove a magnificent mirage unless the spirit in which it is conceived is clearly reflected in the every-day administration of the country. And if our rulers are sincerely bent on making the proposals a success, the mere aiming at the theoretical perfection of its details will not do. The kindly sympathy and generous consideration which underlie the project, and which pervade the pronouncements of Lord Morley and Lord Minto, should be unmistakably evident in the practical work of Government. The primary object of the reform, viz., the creation of a bond of attachment, a feeling of oneness, between the Government and the people as also the effect of the hope-inspiring utterances aforesaid, and of such a statesmanlike speech as was made by Sir Edward Baker at the last Council meeting, will, we say, be almost nullified if the people do not see a correspondence between the policy as enunciated by the powers above, and the policy as carried out by the authorities below. How can the people realise that the rulers are actually as kindly disposed as is indicated by their high-minded deliverances, and that a new era is dawning on British rule in this country, when they find such a departure from their spirit, as is shown by the state of things prevailing in the two Bengals? Searches and arrests, on grounds which appear inconceivable to the people, are in a manner the order of the day. Take, for example, the unheard-of measures that are being adopted in connection with the Naria dacoity case. Indeed, from the reports that are coming in from the distracted tract, and those appearing in the local papers, it seems that police rule, which created so much unrest in the near past in the country, is as rampant now as ever."

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
4th Feb. 1909.

96. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* begs to invite the serious attention of

Ibid.

His Excellency the Viceroy to a letter from its Faridpur correspondent *about* indiscriminate arrests in connection with what is known as the Naria Dacoity Case. According to this correspondent police informers have simply to report that such and such young men are connected with the dacoity in question, and they are at once arrested and consigned to *hajut* without bail and without any regard for their social standing. A more staggering situation than this can hardly be conceived, and the journal appeals to the humanity and noble nature of the Viceroy to take note of this and several other cases in Eastern Bengal which are exercising the public mind. It suggests that His Excellency should ask Sir Lancelot Hare, who is expected in Calcutta shortly, how such a situation could be created in the new Province in his regime.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
5th Feb. 1909.

97. The *Bengales* states that if the police can arrest a man in the position

Arrest of Babu Rassik Chandra Chakravarti.

of Babu Rassik Chandra Chakravarti on a charge of murder, nobody can deem himself safe. Babu Rassik Chandra is not only a leader of the bar, but is one of the foremost public men at Dacca. That such a man should be associated

BENGAL
7th Feb. 1909.

with a diabolical crime is absurd. His arrest has naturally produced a sense of painful surprise in the country; and the fact that he has not even been released on bail has intensified the public excitement. Such arrests not only annoy and irritate the particular individuals who are immediately concerned but the public at large. They tend to produce a sense of humiliation and helplessness in the public mind which can never be conducive to the purposes of successful administration.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

BENGALUR,
6th Feb. 1909.

98. In the course of his judgment in the Midnapore case, Mr. Smither is reported to have said that "some of the persons incriminated in the report had not, in the Judge's belief, done or said what was alleged against them."

The Midnapore case.

The *Bengalee* declares this is a very mild way of saying that parts of the report contained statements which were false. If so, why has nobody so far been punished for these false statements? The Judge has sanctioned the prosecution of two witnesses who, in his opinion, had deposed falsely. Why is nobody to be prosecuted for incorporating statements in a report which the Judge disbelieves? In this case, it must be remembered, some of the wealthiest and most respectable persons in the district of Midnapore had been sought to be implicated in a dark conspiracy. The Judge says that he does not believe that these men were really so implicated. If so, are the persons to go unpunished who thus sought to ruin them? If they are, who among the people is safe?

INDIAN MIRROR,
6th Feb. 1909.

99. According to the *Indian Mirror* the appointment of Sir Lawrence Jenkins to succeed to the Chief Justiceship of Bengal has met with the unqualified satisfaction of all classes of the people. No better selection could have been made especially at the present moment when the cry has gone forth that the judiciary should be strengthened above the registering of executive decrees.

The appointment of Sir Lawrence Jenkins to the Chief Justiceship of Bengal.

BENGALUR,
9th Feb. 1909.

100. In protesting against the frequent adjournments in the case against the Hindu prisoners, the *Bengalee* submits that these short hearings involve very grave hardship upon the accused who have to pay counsel and pleader their full fees and get little work from them. No blame is attached to the Subdivisional Officer, who, no doubt, is doing his best, but he has other work to attend to. In fairness to the accused, he should be relieved of his executive work and wholly entrusted with the duty of trying the prisoners in the case. The journal understands there are about one hundred witnesses in this case. Is there then going to be a repetition of the Alipore bomb case with all its attendant mischievous consequences—the excitement, the irritation and the unrest which must follow in the train of a prolonged trial—where religious feelings have been stirred? As much for the sake of the accused as in the interests of the public and of good government, the journal pleads for a day-to-day hearing from 11 A.M. to 5 P.M. There has been enough of this sort of excitement. When there are circumstances which favour it, but which can be avoided, they must be removed out of sight and as speedily as possible. To prolong these Tittagarh cases is to accentuate the unhappy causes which lay at the bottom of them.

The Tittagarh riots.

BENGALUR,
9th Feb. 1909.

101. The *Bengalee* enquires when the Alipore case is going to terminate. It learns that forty-one new witnesses are to be examined for the prosecution. These, with about eighty witnesses of the old batch, who remain to be examined, would make something like a hundred and twenty witnesses, whose examination and cross-examination it would take at least a couple of months to finish. In the interests of all concerned, the journal protests against this sort of prolongation. The longer the case lasts, the heavier must be the expenditure entailed, and it is hardly necessary to say that in the end the only party to suffer must be the people.

The Alipore case.

AMRITA BASAR
PATRIKA,
9th Feb. 1909.

102. With reference to the quashing by the Lahore Chief Court of the sentence of death passed by the Sessions Judge of Rawalpindi on a young woman, who was accused of poisoning her second husband, the *Amrita Basar Patrika* observes:—

The Lahore murder case.

"We can perhaps only regret that such cases should be so frequent in every part of the country; but there can be no doubt that they go a long way

to neutralize the effect produced on the people by the pure administration of British justice in other respects. The fact is, while political and high administrative measures of Government do not affect the masses, the results of cases always weigh with them and produce good or bad effect, such as little else would do. As matters now stand, but for the High Court, scores of human lives would be lost every year through judicial puzzles let us say, without adequate reason therefore. Is not the contemplation of such a contingency painful to all? As for the police action in the case under notice their lordships declare it to be "unsatisfactory" and criticize it in a manner which should engage the best attention of the Local Government. Already evidence is accumulating in every province as to how the reformed police have failed to come up to the mark—may have proved anything but creditable. It is, therefore, time that this question, too, were no longer shelved, for the police are practically the eyes and ears of the ruler; and as such, at the root of all real reform of the administration must be adequate improvement in the work and morale of the police."

(C) General.

103. The *Anrita Basar Patrika* endeavours to show that if separate Muhammadan electorates are impracticable in Calcutta and the district towns, they must necessarily be much more so in rural areas. If mixed electorates have proved a success in these places, they should also be tried in rural areas. Special electorates for the Muhammadans will, it is feared, only widen the breach among different communities. The state of things which no one is more anxious to remove than the Government itself.

104. The *Indian Mirror* states that the one thing which the Indian people should devoutly pray for at this moment is that the Liberal Ministry and the Liberal party may continue in power, for, if the Reform Scheme is not carried out under the present

regime, it will disappear altogether from sight. The journal declares it was a dignified reply which Lord Morley gave to the Muhammadan deputation with reference to the claim that there should be 1 Muhammadan and 1 Hindu representative on the Viceroy's Council. The principle which should dominate, and has dominated, the Government in this instance is that laid down in Queen Victoria's Proclamation that neither race nor creed should debar a man of requisite ability. The Hindus should not therefore grudge the appointment of a Muhammadan, nor the Muhammadans of a Hindu, if fitness, and fitness alone, be reckoned as the standard.

105. The *Anrita Basar Patrika* is confident that Sir Edward Baker's appeal to the sense of duty of the members of the Civil Service with a view to their co-operation with the representatives of the people will produce better effect than did a similar appeal of Lord Ripon, because the latter laboured under disadvantages from which the present ruler of Bengal is free. But the chief reason why Sir Edward's appeal is not likely to go in vain is that His Honour knows how to manage his subordinates. It is quite evident that there are some among the latter who wish to throw obstacles in his way, but His Honour will not, it is hoped, permit them to do so.

106. The *Anrita Basar Patrika* draws the attention of the authorities to the unique spectacle of so many as seven persons appearing in the field from the Burdwan Division to contest a single seat in the Local Legislative Council. It is India alone which presents such a sight; in England and other countries, only 2 candidates, and rarely 3, fight for a seat on their respective representative Councils, but here there are as many as 7. The spectacle furnishes food for serious reflection both to the rulers and the ruled. All these 7 candidates are worthy men and quite competent to discharge the duties of the office which they seek to secure. What they all want is to serve their country, free of cost, as Legislators. In short, these gentlemen have volunteered their time and talent, without pay, to Government, in the administration of their motherland. But the ruling authorities can accept only one of them and must reject the rest under the present arrangement. The journal is of opinion that the

ANRITA BASAR
PATRIKA,
2nd Feb. 1909.

INDIAN MIRROR,
3rd Jan. 1909.

ANRITA BASAR
PATRIKA,
4th Feb. 1909.

ANRITA BASAR
PATRIKA,
5th Feb. 1909.

Government can have no objection to take in all of them. For they are not too many considering that the Burdwan Division is composed of six districts and contain over ten millions of people. Midnapore, one of these districts, is the biggest in Bengal; thus, it should alone get not only Mr. K. B. Dutt, who is one of the candidates, but another, say, Babu Upendra Nath Maiti, the leading vakil of the local bar. These candidates do not demand any pay for their services. All they want are some chairs in a corner of the Council Chamber, and the privilege of speaking out their mind to the rulers when the turn of each comes round. If the children of the soil have been practically ostracised from all important offices in the public services, the policy underlying such an arrangement is at least intelligible. For, as responsible posts in the public service carry princely salaries, the ostracism of the people means material gain to the members of the ruling caste. But why should the children of the soil be excluded even from honorary work. The only possible answer can be this, namely, inordinate love of power of the ruling caste. The journal is thankful to Sir Edward Baker for pointing out that the members of the Civil Service should not grudge to part with a portion of their power for the better administration of the country with the help of the representatives of the people. It can easily be seen that the association of Indians in the government of their country has many and valuable advantages. By utilizing their services the officials may not only arrive at right conclusions and commit fewer mistakes in regard to important public questions but lessen their own toil, hard worked as they are. Again, if the representatives of the people are allowed to take part in the administration of the country, it is bound to reconcile them to the rule which, with all its blessings, is still alien. But these advantages, inestimable though they ought to be, the bureaucracy, it is regretted, looks unwilling to forego from a passionate love of power. This attempt to rigorously exclude the children of the soil from legislative work is therefore difficult to explain unless it is supposed that what most officers of the Civil Service want is undisturbed enjoyment of power.

AMRITA BASAR
PATRIKA,
6th Feb. 1909.

107. The *Amrita Basar Patrika* desires to draw the attention of the authorities to the way in which the retired servants of Government are treated when they call for their pensions at the office in Calcutta. Their names are called by chaprasis without any prefix of Babu, Lala, Maulvi, etc., and they have to loiter about in the verandah or sit on the benches with the menials. The journal suggests that a few chairs should be kept in a room for the pensioners, and that their names should be called in the usual style of courtesy.

HINDOO PATRIOT,
8th Feb. 1909.

108. The *Hindoo Patriot* declares itself unable to account for the prolonged delay on the part of the Government of India in coming to a decision on this subject. The circumstances of the case may admit of much delay, but as such delays are always dangerous, the public are naturally apprehensive lest the consideration of the question come to nothing. Public opinion on the question of the separation of Judicial and Executive functions has long been recorded, and in no question has there been such an overwhelming consensus of opinion. The journal appeals to His Excellency the Viceroy and his able and sympathetic Home Minister, Sir Harvey Adamson, to wake up the Local Governments and remove the uneasiness felt on account of the delay that has so far been occasioned by taking prompt action in the matter and thereby win the lasting gratitude of the Indian people.

HINDOO PATRIOT,
9th Feb. 1909.

109. The *Hindoo Patriot* observes that the answer given to Mr. Dadabhoi, in connection with the separation of the Executive and Judicial functions, may be misconstrued by a certain section of the people into a desire to postpone the measure indefinitely. At a time like this it is not wise to give any section of the people, who may be inclined to foment discontent, any cause for entertaining such an impression in their minds. It is, however, a matter of satisfaction that the subject has been referred to the Governments of Bengal and of the new province for their opinion on the introduction of the measure in certain selected districts in their respective jurisdictions; and those who know the present rulers of these provinces may well hope that they

will spare no time in satisfying the desire of the people as far as it is possible to do so.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

110. The *Bengalee* declares it is a matter of supreme importance that a thorough and comprehensive enquiry should be instituted into the present abnormal rise in the prices of food-grains. The prevailing high prices have brought in their train disturbances of peace and lawlessness in one form or other in the country. The frequent thefts in railway trains, the attempt to wreck trains, dacoities and other lawless acts in the mufasal, are not altogether indicative of a sudden upheaval of criminal tendencies, but to a large measure they are to be attributed to economical causes, and unless those causes are eradicated, it is feared it will be a hard task for the Government to put things into order by the introduction of the Reform Scheme alone.

BENGALUR.
6th Feb. 1909.

OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL
BRANCH,
41, PARK STREET,
The 13th February 1909.

G. C. DENHAM,
Spl. Asst. to the Deputy Insp.-Genl.
of Police, Crime and Railways, Bengal.

will spend no time in satisfying the desire of the people as far as it is possible to do so.

VI. Miscellaneous

110. The Bengal decision is a matter of supreme importance that a thorough and comprehensive enquiry should be instituted into the present abnormal rise in the prices of food grains. The prevailing high prices have brought in their train disturbances of peace and lawlessness in one form or another in the country. The frequent attacks on railway trains and other public conveyances and other lawless acts of the mob are indicative of a sudden outbreak of criminal tendencies, but to a large measure they are to be attributed to economic causes, and not to any other cause. It is feared it will be a hard task for the Government to put in order by the introduction of the Reform scheme alone.

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The 10th February 1906.